

REMARKS

This application is a national stage filing under 35 USC §371 of PCT application no. PCT/EP03/50035 filed February 27, 2003 which claims priority to provisional patent application no. 60/373,514 filed April 18, 2002, and EP application EP02100203.5 filed Feb. 28, 2002.

Claims 1, 3-9, 11-18 are pending. Claims 1, 3-9 and 11-12 are currently amended without prejudice or disclaimer to place the claims in proper form for prosecution before the USPTO. Claims 2 and 10 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Claims 13-18 have been added.

The specification has been amended.

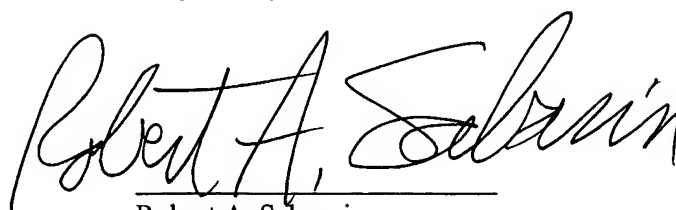
No new subject matter has been added to the application.

This national application is filed with an Information Disclosure Statement, references, a copy of the international application publication no. WO 03/075215 A2, and a copy of the WIPO search report WO 2003/075215 A3.

Please debit any fees due under this general authorization to assignee Deposit Account No. 501490.

In view of the foregoing Amendments, this Application is in condition for examination. Should questions arise during examination, Examiner is requested to contact applicant's attorney at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



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